

REMARKS

After entry of the above amendments, claims 5, 8, 14, 17, and 20 will be pending in the present application. Claims 1-4, 9-13, 18-19, and 21-22 have been cancelled. Claims 5 and 14 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any amended claim in its original form and any cancelled claim in a continuation application. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the July 3, 2006 final Office action, the Examiner indicated that claims 8, 17, and 20 are allowed and that claims 5 and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Although Applicant believes that all previously pending claims are patentable over the references cited by the Examiner, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has cancelled the rejected claims and rewritten claims 5 and 14 in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Hence, the present amendment should be entered pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.116 and 41.33 since Applicant is canceling rejected claims 1-4, 9-13, 18-19, and 21-22 and rewriting objected claims 5 and 14 in independent form.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that after entry of the present amendment, the application will be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is believed to be warranted and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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